

REMARKS:

Claims 1-21 and 41-59 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 3 are cancelled and claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 12-14, 17-21, 41, 43, 45, 49-51, 54-57, and 59 are amended, thereby leaving claims 5, 7, 9-11, 15, 16, 42, 44, 46-48, 52, 53, and 58 unchanged.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the allowance of claim 58 and for the indication of allowable subject matter in dependent claims 4-17, 21, 41-54, 56 and 58.

Applicants hereby amend the currently pending claims to leave only those claims pending that the Examiner has identified as being allowable. More particularly, objected to dependent claims 4, 14, 21, 41, 51, and 56 have been amended into independent form to include the subject matter of their base claim and any intervening claim(s). Accordingly, independent claims 4, 14, 21, 41, 51, and 56 are allowable. Claims previously depending from now cancelled independent claims 1 and 3 have been amended to change their dependency to respectfully depend from one of independent claims 4, 14, 21, 41, 51, and 56. Claim 58 was previously allowed.


Regarding the request for corrected drawings, Applicants respectfully request postponement of the filing of corrected formal drawings until receipt of a Notice of Allowance. Upon receipt of a Notice of Allowance, Applicants will have corrected formal drawings prepared and file such drawings no later than payment of the issue fee. In a telephone conversation with Examiner Self on December 4, 2006 regarding this drawing issue, Examiner Self indicated that filing drawings with this response is not required and the filing of such drawings can be postponed to a time prior to payment of the issue fee.

CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of claims 2, 4-21, and 41-59 are respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,


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Docket No. 066042-9398-01
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